

I. The Claims Defined Allowable Subject Matter

The Office Action rejects claims 1-2, 4-6, 8-11, 13-15 and 17-21 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,613,032 to Cruz et al. (hereinafter "Cruz"); and claims 3, 7, 12 and 16 under 35 U.S.C. §1.103(a) as unpatentable over Cruz in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,052,508 to Mincy et al. (hereinafter "Mincy"). The rejections are respectfully traversed.

By this Amendment, independent claim 1 has been amended to include the feature of "a playback system for replaying an indexed recording that allows simultaneous recording of an activity while replaying an indexed recording." Claim 10 has been amended to recite the corresponding method for this feature. Support for this feature may be found on page 5, lines 10-14, where it is stated that the recording subsystem "allows simultaneous recording of the activity and playing back of the recording, so that activity participants may review a previously recorded and indexed portion of the activity, while that review is simultaneously being recorded by the recording system 210 and indexed to the current index heading."

Cruz fails to disclose a playback system for playing an indexed recording that allows simultaneous recording of an activity while replaying an indexed recording, as recited in claims 1 and 10. In contrast, Cruz discloses a preprocessor 300 which includes a track mapping table store 335. See Figs. 3a-3b. The track mapping table held at store 335 includes instructions for digitizing, pressing, decompressing and generating derivative tracks from each track of the multimedia event. See column 6, lines 1-13. This table describes specific instructions relating to the recording of playback of a training session. However, while Cruz discloses a system for playing back multimedia events, Cruz fails to disclose simultaneous recording of an activity while replaying an indexed recording, as recited in the claimed invention.

Mincy discloses an editing interface for a moving picture recording device that includes a random-access, computer-readable and writable storage medium to provide non-linear access to recorded clips. However, Mincy fails to overcome the deficiencies in Cruz, as it also fails to disclose simultaneous recording of an activity while replaying an indexed recording. As such, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1 and 10 are distinguishable over the applied art.

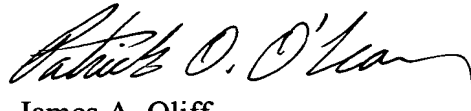
Claims 2-4, 6-9 and, 11-13 and 15-21, which depend from claims 1 and 10, respectively, are likewise distinguishable over the applied art for at least the reasons discussed above, as well as for the additional features recited. Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) and §103(a) is respectfully requested.

II. Conclusion

For at least the reasons discussed above, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-4, 6-13 and 15-21 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable in order to place this application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned attorneys at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment:
Appendix

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Xerox Reference No.: D/98140

APPENDIX

Claims 5 and 14 is canceled.

The following are marked-up versions of the amended claims:

1. (Twice Amended) A system that uses structured representations to index recordings of activity comprising:
 - an object description file that stores at least one index;
 - a user input device that selects at least one item of the at least one index based on a user input; ~~and~~
 - an association device that associates the selected at least one item with a recording of an activity; and
 - a playback system for replaying an indexed recording that allows simultaneous recording of an activity while replaying an indexed recording.
6. (Amended) The system of claim 51, wherein the playback system can replay a portion of the indexed recording in response to selecting an item from the at least one index.
10. (Twice Amended) A method of using structured representations to represent recordings of activity, comprising the steps of:
 - storing at least one index;
 - selecting at least one item of the at least one index based on a user input;
 - recording an activity; ~~and~~
 - associating the selected at least one item with the recorded activity; and
 - replaying an indexed recording with a playback system while simultaneously recording an activity.
15. (Amended) The method of claim ~~14~~10, wherein the playback system can replay a portion of the indexed recording in response to selecting an item from the at least one index.